

REASONS

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Against making the RIVER *DARWENT*, in the
County of *Derby*, NAVIGABLE. 216

I. **T**HE Mayor and Burgesſes of *Derby*, have Thrice heretofore attempted, without Succeſs, the making this River Navigable.

II. There is no Common Bridge over the ſaid River, but many Fords, through which Carts and Carriages daily, and Mill-ſtones frequently do paſs. Now by conſtant deepening the Channel to keep the River Navigable, no New Fords can ever be caſt up; and if the Old ones wear out, which often happens, all Communication of the Inhabitants on the one ſide of the River, with thoſe on the other, will be loſt; for the Undertakers are not willing to make Bridges.

III. On this River are divers Corn-Mills and Fulling-Mills, which this Navigation will often lay dry, and frequently interrupt their Working, to the great damage of the Country thereabouts, and endanger the breaking of the Wares, to the damage of the Owners.

IV. This intended Navigation will not, as is pretended, Advance the Trade of any Market, or other Town lying near the ſaid River, or the River *Trent*; but inſtead thereof, it will much abate the Trade of *Nottingham*, *Mansfield*, *Blyth*, *Tuxford*, *Worſop*, *Bautry*, &c. which is driven thence through *Scarſdale* by Land-Carriage into *Yorkſhire*, *Lancaſhire*, and *Cheshire*, and by this means multitudes of Families will be utterly undone, who now get their Living by Land-Carriage.

V. Nor can this intended Navigation be any ways commodious for the quicker and cheaper conveying of Goods to the Port of *London* (which is the principal Reaſon that all Navigators urge for ſuch their Undertaking) for oftentimes the Stream of this River for a Month or ſix Weeks together, is ſo ſmall and ſhallow, that it will ſcarce carry a little Filhing-Boat; all which time the greater Veſſels with their Lading, muſt lie ſtill, and the Trader often loſe the advantage of that Market, which he might have been ſure of by Land-Carriage.

VI. And as for the Preſervation of the High-ways, a Beneſit which is pretended will be wrought by this Navigation, this Navigation can only ſave five Miles of Land-Carriage, viz. from *Derby* to *Wiln-Ferry*, and all who are liable to the repair of thoſe High-ways, had much rather bear that Charge, than be barr'd the conveniency of paſſing the River *Darwent* when they have occaſion.

VII. If this River were capable of being made Navigable, (as in the opinion of all who know it well, it is not) yet it would be advantageous to none, beſides a few Traders in *Derby*, but very prejudicial to many who live there, and get a comfortable Livelihood by Land-Carriage from thence to *Wiln-Ferry*, yet dare not, for fear of the Great ones of the Town, ſhew their diſlike of the Navigation.

VIII. Now by this Navigation, to enrich ſome of the Town of *Derby* and impoveriſh others, to ſubvert the Trade of all the Market-Towns in *Nottinghamſhire*, and greatly to annoy all the Gentlemens Eſtates on the Banks of the River *Darwent*, is juſt as reaſonable, as to rob all the Apoſtles to enrich *St. Peter*.

NAVIGABLE.
River DARWENT
Of making the
CASE
THE

1848/9